

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 NIC-01 DRC-01

/150 W

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R 231346Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4093

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD BY POUCH

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAGION

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UR UN CB

SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON CAMBODIA

1. MOST COMPREHENSIVE SOVIET PRESS COMMENTARY ON CAMBODIA IN RECENT MONTHS APPEARED IZVESTIYA NOVEMBER 22. ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT MENTION SKHANOUK'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF SHIFTING GRUNK MINISTERS TO CAMBODIAN SOIL, ITS WARMTH TOWARD GRUNK/FUNK MAY WELL REFLECT SOVIET SATISFACTION THAT SIHANOUK HAS REDUCED VISIBLE DEPENDENCE ON PEKING. COMMENTARY IMPLIES STRONG SOVIET SUPPORT FRO GRUNK IN FORTHCOMING UN CREDENTIALS FIGHT, NOTING SOVIET VOTE FOR INSCRIPTION AND SIHANOUK'S EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR SAME.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMENTARY BY M. ILYINSKIY INCLUDE:
ASSERTION THAT MARCH 1970 COUP WAS STAGED BY DOMESTIC
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REACTIONARIES "TAKING ADVANTAGE OF SUPPORT BY WASHINGTON;"

REFERENCE TO PREVIOUSLY NEGLECTED KOSYGIN MESSAGE OF
GREETING TO SIHANOUK ON OCCASION OF FOUNDING OF FUNK
IN MAY 1970; RECOLLECTION OF SOVIET SOLIDARITY WITH
CAMBODIAN PATRIOTS WHO RESISTED U.S.-SAIGON INCURSION IN
APRIL 1970; AND ASSERTION THAT LON NOL REGIME SITUATION
WORSENER AFTER AUGUST 1973 BOMBING HALT, TO EXTENT THAT
INSURGENTS NOW CONTROL COUNTRY AND ARE RIGHTENING RING
AROUND PHNOM PENH AND KOMPONGCHAM. COMMENTARY VOICES
SOVIET SUPPORT FOR PATRIOTS UNITED UNDER FUNK/GRUNK,
WHICH ARE "ONLY GENUINE REPRESENTATIVES OF FREEDOM-
LOVING CAMBODIAN PEOPLE."
DUBS

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Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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